

8 February 1972

RNR 147  
ALTMANN

LA PAZ, F BOLIVIA, FEB. 8, REUTER-GERMAN-BORN BUSINESSMAN  
ALTMANN HAS BEEN SUMMONED TO APPEAR BEFORE A TRIBUNAL CHECKING FRENCH  
ALLEGATIONS THAT HE IS REALLY THE WANTED NAZI WAR CRIMINAL KLAUS  
BARBIE, JUDICIAL SOURCES SAID HERE TODAY.

THE OFFICIAL SUMMONS WAS HANDED TO THE 56-YEAR-OLD ALTMANN WEDNESDAY  
AS HE WALKED ACROSS A SQUARE IN LA PAZ ACCOMPANIED BY A BODYGUARD.

IT CALLS ON HIM TO APPEAR AT AN EARLY DATE, STILL TO BE FIXED,  
BEFORE THE LA PAZ DISTRICT SUPERIOR COURT -- THE TRIBUNAL APPOINTED  
BY THE BOLIVIAN JUSTICE MINISTRY TO CONSIDER A FRENCH GOVERNMENT  
REQUEST FOR ALTMANN'S EXTRADITION.

THE ALTMANN-BARBIE CASE HAS BEEN HANGING FIRE SINCE LAST MAY,  
WHEN A BRAZILIAN NEWSPAPER QUOTED ALTMANN AS ADMITTING  
IN A SERIES OF INTERVIEWS THAT HE WAS BARBIE, BUT DENYING THAT  
HE TOOK PART IN WAR CRIMES IN FRANCE.

ALTMANN, WHO ARRIVED IN BOLIVIA ABOUT 20 YEARS AGO, IS NOW  
A BOLIVIAN CITIZEN AND RUNS AN IMPORT-EXPORT BUSINESS.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS PRESENTED THE BOLIVIAN JUDICIARY  
WITH DOCUMENTS IT CONTENTS PROVE BEYOND DOUBT ALTMANN IS REALLY  
BARBIE, KNOWN AS THE "BUTCHER OF LYONS" FROM THE TIME HE WAS  
GESTAPO CHIEF THERE, AND CONDEMNED TO DEATH IN ABSENTIA FOR  
THE MURDER OF FRENCH RESISTANCE FIGHTERS INCLUDING MAQUIS  
HERO JEAN MOULIN.

REUTER JW/JK 1822

501- Altman

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2000 2000

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